



All About Pets

WINTER
2016 EDITION

How dogs relate to weather



Unique relationship to barometric pressure and static electric field may cause agitation

COURTESY PHOTOS

Own

ing a dog is a big responsibility, but one that also provides a companion whose love is unconditional. Dog owners quickly learn their four-legged friends respond differently than humans to certain situations, including the changing weather. Many dog owners may notice that their pets seem particularly attuned to the weather.

Changing weather can affect canines much like it does people, but dogs may also be affected in ways their owners are not.

According to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, dogs can feel changes in barometric pressure and even in the static electric field that occurs in the air.

The American Animal Hospital Association says dogs' behavioral changes may be attributable to changes in the weather.

Dogs may become agitated or overexcited by dips in barometric pressure. As electrical storms approach, some dogs may get very anxious, even running and hiding if their anxiety is especially high.

Many dogs are afraid of thunder and lightning and can sense approaching storms even when they are still miles away.

According to researchers at Penn State University, between 15 and 30 percent of all dogs are extremely scared of thunder and may experience a rapid increase of cortisol, a stress hormone.

Dogs also can sniff out storms, detecting concentrations of chemicals common during some storms. Dogs can smell ozone in the air associated with lightning as well.

Dogs may be physically affected by weather just like their owners are.

Although there is little



scientific work specifically on the affects of cold or damp weather on dogs that occurs during autumn and early winter, it does seem that canines feel the effects of these changes.

Owners often notice more stiffness and lameness in pets during adverse weather conditions. Pain resulting from arthritis may increase and muscles may stiffen when the climate becomes

cooler.

Many animals are known to have an innate sense of changing weather or oncoming storms. Dogs can learn to anticipate meaning behind atmospheric changes that can alert others to upcoming weather.

Treat pets kindly and safely during all weather. Remember, dogs are humans' best friends.

—Metro

Animal owners prepare for disaster event

The following tips are found in the 2015 Emergency Management calendar, which can be downloaded at www.co.lincoln.or.us/emergency-management.

Plan for pets

- Take animals with you if you need to evacuate. Only as a last resort should animals be left behind.

- Many emergency shelters cannot accept animals. Find out which hotels/shelters allow animals before disaster strikes.

- If you have to leave your animals at home, keep them inside a secure area. Leave at least a 10-day supply of dry food and water. Put signs on windows and doors indicating the number and type of animals inside and your contact information.

- Keep your pets' vaccinations and ID tags up to date.

- Be sure ID tags are on collars and consider a microchip.

- Prepare a pet emergency kit with leashes, collars, portable carriers, water, food, medications, sanitation materials, immunization records, first-aid kit and photos to prove ownership.

- Don't leave pets in vehicles, tethered or crated without you.

- Your pet's behavior may change after a crisis, becoming more aggressive or self-protective.

Plan for livestock

- Post emergency contact numbers on barn or fence.

- Have a supply of feed at a separate location.

- Involve family and neighbors in an evacuation plan.

- Make a kit with first aid, quiting hoods, water, photos and a copy of your ownership papers.

Pets are important part of life

Pets are increasingly included in activities, such as vacations, dining out and even weddings.

More couples are customizing their wedding celebrations and bridal parties to include pets.

Before giving your pet a job for the wedding, consider his

personality and temperament.

Make sure to inform guests that an animal will be present, so those with allergies can take precautions. If it isn't practical to have animals in the ceremony, give them a primary spot in wedding or engagement photos.

Follow these tips to protect pets this winter

Winter is a time we should pay close attention to the safety of pets. Here are some safety tips:

1. Pets that live outdoors should be fed a bit more in the winter because they need the extra calories to stay warm.

2. They also should have fresh water put out a couple of times a day, or consider a special bowl that prevents the water from freezing.

3. If your pet goes outdoors,

be aware of the temperature. Pets can get frostbite very easily on the ears, tail and paws.

4. When walking your dog in freezing conditions, check the paws to make sure that ice is not building up between the toes and that salt or gravel from the roads is not irritating skin.

5. If your dog is a swimmer, keep it on a leash around open water or unstable ice.

6. Hypothermia can set in quickly and the dog may be

unable to get out of the water.

7. Before you start your car, ensure no animals have decided to nap in a warm spot under the hood of the vehicle.

8. If decorating for the holidays, keep ornaments out of the reach of your pets.

9. Remember that poinsettias, holly, mistletoe and other plants can be toxic if ingested.

10. Ingesting anti-freeze can be fatal for your dog or cat. It

has a sweet taste and even a tiny amount can cause severe kidney damage and even death.

If you spill anti-freeze, soak it up immediately. (Clay cat litter works well. Discard the litter once the anti-freeze has been absorbed.)

For more tips, visit lincolncountysheriff.net. —Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Dunes City Council will hold a public hearing on January 14, 2016, at 7:00 pm in the Dunes City Hall, 82877 Spruce Street, Westlake, OR. The City Council will hear public input on Ordinance No. 228, a proposed amendment to the Dunes City Code of Ordinances relating to septic system maintenance.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Type IV process described at Section 155.4.1.7 of the City's Development Code, also available for review at City Hall or on the City's website at dunescity.com/ordinances and clicking on the link to Ordinance No. 182. Written testimony will be accepted by the City until the close of the public hearing. To submit written testimony or for additional information, please contact Jamie Mills, City Administrator, at 541-997-3338 or recorder@dunescityor.com. Written testimony and evidence must be directed toward the subject described above or other criteria in the Land Use Regulation which is believed to apply.

Ordinance No. 228 amends Title XV (15) of the Dunes City Code of Ordinances to repeal Chapter 157 and Ordinance No. 203 in their entirety. Ordinance No. 228 also amends Title XIV (14) of the Dunes City Code of Ordinances, entitled "Water Quality Protection," to add a new Chapter 142, entitled "Subsurface Sanitation," implementing new septic maintenance regulations.

Ordinance No. 228 and the draft staff report will be available for inspection seven days prior to the public hearing, Monday through Thursday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Dunes City Hall and on the Dunes City website at dunescity.com. A copy of Ordinance No. 228 and the draft staff report are also available for purchase at a cost of \$0.25 per sheet.

Publication date: January 2, 2016

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...need a friend?

Meet Tyler

Greetings to You! I am Tyler, or as some of the staff calls me; MyTy or TyeDye! I am a dog who does best with a set schedule and set boundaries with a lot of ball throwing added in too! I love to go on walks and have pretty good manners on a leash. Kids are very fun playmates and I would do great with older children. I do best when I have strong leadership, I need to be dog and you the boss!

If you would like to meet Meribel any of his friends, please visit us at:

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2840 Rhododendron Drive • Florence • 541-997-4277

www.florencehumane.org
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